

**REMARKS**

Claims 17-22 and 24-27 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 17-22 and 24-27 were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 17 and 24-26 were amended and claim 27 was cancelled. Accordingly, claims 17-22 and 24-26 are at issue.

**I. 35 U.S.C. § 102 Anticipation Rejection of Claims**

Claims 17-22, 24-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kikuchi (U.S. Patent No. 6,088,733). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 17 and 24-26, as amended, include control data that is previously described as an encoded data string in a user defined predetermined event in a standard format of the interface data.

Kikuchi discloses sequence number 203 and reproduction time 204 managed by the encoder 104. Kikuchi does not disclose or suggest that the predetermined event is user defined as required by claims 17 and 24-26. Accordingly, claims 17 and 24-26, and claims 18-22 that depend from claim 17, are allowable over Kikuchi. Claim 27 has been cancelled. Thus, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

**II. Conclusion**

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all claims are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully requests early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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